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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 10, 2001

Johnny Pappas, Sr. Environmental Engineer
Plateau Mining Corporation
847 Northwest Highway 191
Helper, Utah 84526

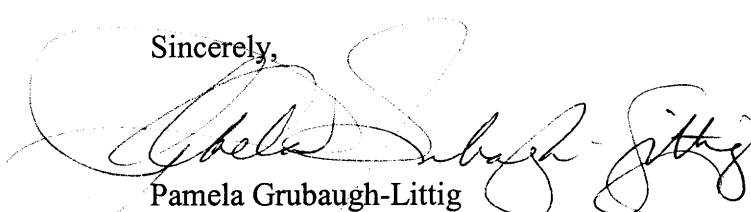
Re: Approval of Refuse Pile Use as Waste Fuel Resources by Sunnyside Cogeneration Facility, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, C/007/006-AM01C-1, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Pappas:

The above-referenced amendment is approved effective September 10, 2001. A stamped incorporated copy is enclosed for your copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

Thank you for completing this permitting action. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (801) 538-5268.

Sincerely,



Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

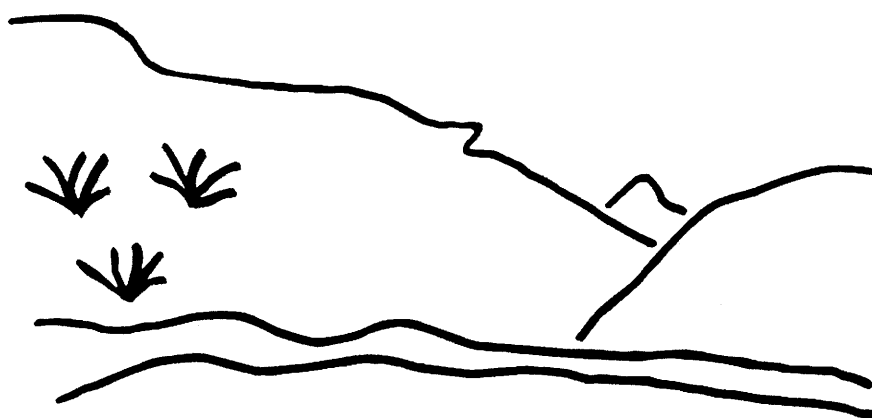
krh/sd

Enclosure:

cc Joe Wilcox, OSM
Richard Manus, BLM
Elaine Zieroth, USFS (2)
Mark Page, Water Rights w/o
Dave Ariotti, DEQ w/o
Derris Jones, DWR w/o
Price Field Office

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State of Utah



Utah Oil Gas and Mining

Coal Regulatory Program

Star Point Mine
Refuse Pile Use as Waste Fuel Resources
by Sunnyside Cogeneration Facility
C/007/006-AM01C-1
Technical Analysis
September 6, 2001

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INTRODUCTION

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

On August 8, 2001, the Division reviewed AM01C submitted by Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) relative to the Star Point Mine. On September 5, 2001, the Division reviewed AM01C-1 submitted by Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) in response to the deficiencies of AM01C. Page 500-12 has been modified to indicate that Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) and Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates (SCA) will maintain tonnage records for the amount of refuse removed from the (PMC) Star Point Mine to (SCA).

PMC's current MRP allows for the removal, processing, and transporting of the refuse material.

The amendment addresses Refuse Pile Use as Waste Fuel Resources by Sunnyside Cogeneration Facility. Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates (SCA) evaluated the waste as a fuel resource and asked PMC to amend its MRP to allow the refuse material to be moved to SCA's permitted facility.

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C/007/006-AM01C-1
September 6, 2001

INTRODUCTION

OPERATION PLAN

OPERATION PLAN

SPOIL AND WASTE MATERIALS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 701.5, 784.19, 784.25, 817.71, 817.72, 817.73, 817.74, 817.81, 817.83, 817.84, 817.87, 817.89; R645-100-200, -301-210, -301-211, -301-212, -301-412, -301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-521, -301-526, -301-528, -301-535, -301-536, -301-542, -301-553, -301-745, -301-746, -301-747.

Minimum Regulatory Requirements:

Refuse piles

Refuse piles shall meet the requirements of coal mine waste, the additional requirements provided below and the requirements of 30 CFR Sections 77.214 and 77.215.

If the disposal area contains springs, natural or manmade water courses, or wet-weather seeps, the design shall include diversions and underdrains as necessary to control erosion, prevent water infiltration into the disposal facility, and ensure stability. Uncontrolled surface drainage may not be diverted over the outslope of the refuse pile. Runoff from areas above the refuse pile and runoff from the surface of the refuse pile shall be diverted into stabilized diversion channels designed to safely pass the runoff from a 100-year, 6-hour precipitation event. Runoff diverted from undisturbed areas need not be commingled with runoff from the surface of the refuse pile.

Underdrains shall comply with the general requirements for the disposal of excess spoil.

Slope protection shall be provided to minimize surface erosion at the site. All disturbed areas, including diversion channels that are not riprapped or otherwise protected, shall be revegetated upon completion of construction.

All vegetative and organic materials shall be removed from the disposal area prior to placement of coal mine waste. Topsoil shall be removed, segregated and stored or redistributed. If approved by the Division, organic material may be used as mulch or may be included in the topsoil to control erosion, promote growth of vegetation, or increase the moisture retention of the soil.

The final configuration of the refuse pile shall be suitable for the approved postmining land use. Terraces may be constructed on the outslope of the refuse pile if required for stability, control of erosion, conservation of soil moisture, or facilitation of the approved postmining land use. The grade of the outslope between terrace benches shall not be steeper than 2h:1v (50 percent).

No permanent impoundments shall be allowed on the completed refuse pile. Small depressions may be allowed by the Division if they are needed to retain moisture, minimize erosion, create and enhance wildlife habitat, or assist revegetation, and if they are not incompatible with the stability of the refuse pile.

Following final grading of the refuse pile, the coal mine waste shall be covered with a minimum of 4 feet of the best available, nontoxic and noncombustible material, in a manner that does not impede drainage from the underdrains. The Division may allow less than 4 feet of cover material based on physical and chemical analyses which show that the revegetation requirements will be met.

A qualified registered professional engineer, or other qualified professional specialist under the direction of the professional engineer, shall inspect the refuse pile during construction. The professional engineer or specialist shall be experienced in the construction of similar earth and waste structures. Such inspection shall be made at least quarterly throughout construction and during critical construction periods. Critical construction periods shall include, at a minimum: Foundation preparation including the removal of all organic material and topsoil; Placement of underdrains and protective filter systems; Installation of final surface drainage systems; and, The final graded and revegetated facility. Regular inspections by the engineer or specialist shall also be conducted during placement and compaction of coal mine waste materials. More frequent inspections shall be conducted if a danger of harm exists to the public health and safety or the environment. Inspections shall continue until the refuse pile has been finally graded and revegetated or until a later time as required by the Division.

The qualified registered professional engineer shall provide a certified report to the Division promptly after each inspection that the refuse pile has been constructed and maintained as designed and in accordance with the approved plan and this Chapter.

OPERATION PLAN

The report shall include appearances of instability, structural weakness, and other hazardous conditions. The certified report on the drainage system and protective filters shall include color photographs taken during and after construction, but before underdrains are covered with coal mine waste. If the underdrain system is constructed in phases, each phase shall be certified separately. The photographs accompanying each certified report shall be taken in adequate size and number with enough terrain or other physical features of the site shown to provide a relative scale to the photographs and to specifically and clearly identify the site. A copy of each inspection report shall be retained at or near the minesite.

Analysis:

Refuse Piles

Pages 500-10 through 500-13 and 500-52 through 500-55 have been submitted for change to the MRP.

Pages 500-10, 500-13, 500-53 and 500-54 have been included because the pages in the permit are doubled sided. No change to the aforementioned pages has been made.

Page 500-11 is a clean copy that clarifies the type of equipment to be used.

Page 500-12 is a clean copy that states that tonnage records of refuse removed will be maintained by SCA and PMC. This page was modified from a deficiency noted in AM01C.

Page 500-52 is a clean copy that removed information from the MRP on reprocessing the refuse pile by PMC.

Page 500-55 is a clean copy that defines the refuse pile as waste fuel instead of coal.

Findings:

The information is clear and concise clarifying the equipment used and the use of the refuse material as a fuel source by SCA. Page 500-12 has been modified to indicate that the tonnage records of refuse removed should be kept on file by SCA and PMC.

The deficiencies listed in the previously submitted amendment AM01C have been met and are contained in this amendment AM01C-1.

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